The list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition for reducing the incidence of adhesions in a body cavity comprising an aqueous formulation containing a polysaccharide dextrin in an amount effective to reduce said adhesions, wherein the dextrin is unsubstituted and contains more than 15% of polymers with a degree of polymerisation (DP) greater than 12, and ~~acts as an osmotic agent to maintain a volume of the aqueous formulation in the body cavity serving to separate tissues which otherwise may adhere to each other~~ wherein the dextrin is present in an amount of from 2.5-18 % weight to volume of the composition.

2. (Original) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the aqueous formulation is a solution.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the percentage of α-1,6 linkages in the dextrin is less than 10%.

5. (Currently Amended) A composition according to Claim 4 wherein the percentage of α-1,6 linkages in the dextrin is less than 5%.

6. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the number average molecular weight (Mn) of the dextrin is in the range of 1,000 to 30,000.

7. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 6 wherein the Mn of the dextrin is in the range of 3,000 to 8,000.

8. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the weight average molecular weight (Mw) of the dextrin is in the range of 3,000 to 50,000.

9. (Original) A composition according to Claim 8 wherein the Mw of the dextrin is from 5,000 to 50,000.

10. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the dextrin contains more than 50% of polymers with a degree of polymerisation (DP) greater than 12.

11-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A composition according to Claim 1 [[14]] in which the dextrin is present in an amount of from 3-5 % ~~by~~ weight to volume of the composition.

16. (Currently Amended) A composition according to Claim 1 [[14]] in which the dextrin is present in an amount of about 4 % ~~by~~ weight to volume of the composition.

17. (Original) A composition according to Claim 1 which further includes a calcium binding agent.

18. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 17 wherein the calcium binding agent is EDTA or sodium citrate.

19-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 which further comprises a hyaluronate.

22. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 which further comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of glycosaminoglycan, an antibiotic agent, prostacyclin or an analogue thereof, a fibrinolytic agent or an analogue thereof, an anti-inflammatory agent or an analogue thereof, and methylene blue.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing the incidence of adhesions in a body cavity, comprising introducing into the body cavity a composition comprising an aqueous formulation further comprising a polysaccharide dextrin in an amount effective to reduce the incidence of said adhesions, wherein the dextrin is unsubstituted and the dextrin contains more than 15% of polymers with a degree of polymerisation (DP) greater than 12 and acts as an osmotic agent to maintain a volume of the aqueous formulation in the body cavity serving to separate tissues which otherwise may adhere to each other, and wherein the aqueous formulation is a solution in the body cavity and further remains in the body cavity for at least 2 days.

24-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 23 wherein said composition is applied to the appropriate body cavity after a surgical operation has been carried out.

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the composition is allowed to remain in the body cavity for a minimum of 2 to 3 days.

28. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the composition is allowed to remain in the body cavity over the period during which fibrin exudation is at a maximum.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the composition remains in the body cavity for a period of up to 7 to 8 days in order to allow restoration of non-stick surfaces.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the composition is applied to the peritoneal cavity in a volume in the range of 500-2000 ml.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 30 wherein the composition is applied to the peritoneal cavity in a volume in the range of 1000 ml-1500 ml.

32. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the dextrin is applied to the appropriate body cavity in differing concentrations over a concentration range of 2.5-18 % ~~by~~ weight to volume of the composition.

33. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 32 wherein the dextrin is applied to the appropriate body cavity in differing concentrations over a concentration range of 3-5 % ~~by~~ weight to volume of the composition.

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to either Claim 32 wherein the dextrin is applied to the appropriate body cavity in an amount of about 4 % ~~by~~ weight to volume of the composition.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the concentration range of the dextrin is selectively altered over a period of time.

36-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously Presented) Products containing an aqueous formulation of the polysaccharide dextrin of Claim 22 as a combined preparation for use in reducing the incidence of adhesions in a body cavity.

40. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising an aqueous formulation of polysaccharide dextrin in an amount effective to reduce said adhesions, wherein the dextrin is unsubstituted and contains more than 15% of polymers with a degree of

polymerisation (DP) greater than 12, and ~~acts as an osmotic agent to maintain a volume of the aqueous formulation in the body cavity serving to separate tissues which otherwise may adhere to each other~~ wherein the dextrin is present in an amount of from 2.5-18 % weight to volume of the composition, ~~and~~ wherein the kit is useful for surgical use for reducing adhesions in a body cavity of animals or humans.

41. (Previously Presented) The kit according to Claim 40, wherein the kit is biocompatible.

42. (Previously Presented) The kit according to Claim 40, wherein the kit is bioresorbable.

43. (Previously Presented) The kit according to Claim 40, wherein the kit is non-toxic.

44. (New) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the solution remains a solution in the body cavity.